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Group: 1 (Form 1-2)

Topic: Dear America

Dear America,

Malaysia is a harmonious country. Whoever stays in Malaysia will say the same thing. There is no war, because we stay in peace. There are fourteen states in Malaysia. They are Perak, Perlis, Negeri Sembilan, Pahang, Selangor, Kelantan, Kedah, Johor, Sarawak, Sabah, Pulau Pinang, Terengganu, and Wilayah Persekutuan.

In Malaysia, there are many different races and cultures. They are Malay, Chinese, Indian, Iban, Bajau, Melanau, Kenyah, Kadazandusun, Kelabit, Bidayuh, Orang Ulu and many other races. Although we are from different races, we unite as one. It is one of our keys to living in peace.

Malaysians are very friendly. Although we do not know each other, we always give a big smile and greet each other. We are just like one big family. It is so meaningful to us when we know each other. Malaysians are also very kind. We are ready to help people if they're in trouble. It is our responsibility to help each other in whatever condition.

Malaysia is also rich in biodiversity. There are many tropical flora and fauna in Malaysia. There are many species of mammals, amphibians, birds, reptiles, and fish. There is a unique plant in Malaysia. It is called the Rafflesia. It is unique because it is the biggest flower in the world and it is hard to find. There are also many types of plants and special fruit in Malaysia. One of our most famous fruits is durian. We call it the "King of Fruit". It is because this fruit has thorny skin but we enjoy eating it. The taste of durian is so sweet and scrumptious.

In Malaysia, we enjoy eating different types of food. There are many types of food such as chicken rice, nasi kandar, pansoh, rendang, and ketupat. The most famous food for Malay people are rendang and ketupat. These two dishes are very important for celebrating Hari Raya Aidilfitri. Pansoh is a Bidayuh favorite; chicken cooked in bamboo. It is a unique and traditional food to the Bidayuh culture. We enjoy eating pansoh especially for Hari Gawai Dayak.

In Malaysia, we celebrate many festivals such as Christmas, Hari Raya Aidilfitri, Deepavali, and Chinese New Year. During the festivals, we go to our friends' houses. We celebrate it together even though we are not always of the same culture.

Malaysia is rich with nature especially in the village, what we call "kampong". In the kampong, we have waterfalls, rivers, paddy fields, fruit orchards, and lots of jungle. There are also many

places to visit in Malaysia. Kota Kinabalu is the best place to visit especially for tourists. There is Mount Kinabalu which is the highest mountain in Malaysia. Whoever goes to Kota Kinabalu should take a chance to climb the thrilling Mount Kinabalu. It takes a few days to reach the peak. It is so cold up there. There are also many caves in Malaysia, especially in Sarawak. One of them is Mulu Cave. People can find some very old gadgets in the cave, such as plates made from clay and weapons from animal bone.

There are also many historical monuments to visit in Malaysia. One of them is A'Famosa in Melaka. It is one of our famous historical monuments. Whoever visits Melaka should visit this building.

There are many beaches in Malaysia, especially on the island of Langkawi. Our people love beaches very much because we trust the waves can take our problems away. Tourists also can stay in the resort beside the beach. People like watching the sunset. It is a beautiful view.

There are many traditional clothes in Malaysia as we come from different races. For example, baju kurung and baju melayu are for the Malays, while samfoo and cheongsam are for the Chinese. For Independence Day or National Day, we will wear them. We will wear other clothes from different races. For example, a Chinese girl may wear a baju kurung, while a Bidayuh boy may wear samfoo, and an Indian girl may wear baju bidayuh especially for Merdeka Day.

In Malaysia, the weather is balanced. We have hot, and dry season and a cooler, rainy season. During the summer, farmers take the chance to plant paddies, fruit orchards, and vegetable farms. The farmers in our country are very hardworking. They leave their house early in the morning and go home late in the evening. During the rainy season, we will stay at home and spend time with our family. We will watch television together, cook for lunch together, and play some games.

People in Malaysia are good at making crafts, especially traditional crafts. They can make hats, bags, shoes, tissue boxes, bracelets, and necklaces. People in Malaysia are creative. We also can make some crafts with a few cans. We always think outside of the box.

Malaysia is an amazing nation. It is because the people are always united and work together as one family. Malaysians are very independent, and they have faith. It is our key to being strong.

Sincerely,

Agnes

